

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

Office of Publication: 208 South Elm Street, Denton, Texas; Editorial and Executive Office: 145 North Hale Street, Wheaton, Illinois.

An independent Religious Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Modernism, Worldliness, and Formalism

VOLUME X, No. 41

DENTON, TEXAS, FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 1944

\$1.00 PER YEAR

THEN JESUS CAME

By Oswald J. Smith, D. D., Litt. D.

BARTIMAEUS—Mark 10:46

One sat alone beside the highway begging,
His eyes were blind, the light he could not see;
He clutched his rags and shivered in the shadows,
Then Jesus came and bade his darkness flee.

THE GADARENE DEMONIAK—Mark 5:1-8

From home and friends the evil spirits drove him,
Among the tombs he dwelt in misery;
He cut himself as demon powers possessed him,
Then Jesus came and set the captive free.

LAZARUS—John 11:1-44

Their hearts were sad as in the tomb they laid him,
For death had come and taken him away;
Their night was dark and bitter tears were falling,
Then Jesus came and night was turned to day.

SINNERS TODAY

So men today have found the Saviour able,
They could not conquer passion, lust, and sin;
Their broken hearts had left them sad and lonely,
Then Jesus came and dwelt Himself within.

CHORUS

When Jesus comes the tempter's power is broken;
When Jesus comes the tears are wiped away.
He takes the gloom and fills the life with glory,
For all is changed when Jesus comes to stay.
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HAVE YOU BEGUN?

Opportunity To Get Best Christian Books Free With Subs Still Open; Begin Today To Earn Free Library; Many Getting Books Free

By Lola M. Bradshaw
Publication Manager
Sword of the Lord Publishers

How would you like to be able to send us a letter like the following: "Dear Friends: For the 44 subscriptions already sent in, please send me the books checked below:

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"Fox's Book of Martyrs," by Forbush, \$2.00
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What Is Religious Modernism?

By Pastor HARRY G. HAMILTON, First Baptist Church, Buffalo N. Y.

That there is a fearful conflict in church life today we are all agreed, but what it is about the average man and woman does not understand, and the pathetic thing is, many do not seem to care.

Returning from Europe last year, while in conversation on shipboard, with a gentleman from Boston, he said: "I am tired and wearied at heart of this talk of 'Fundamentalism' and 'Modernism,' and what the fuss is about, I do not know." Many times during our days together in the dining saloon, and on the deck, I heard this elderly gentleman extol the graces of his good mother. Indeed I visualized in my own mind, this wonderful woman whom he claimed as his mother. In fact, I felt I had come to know her very well, although I had never seen her. So one day I said to him: "Will you please pardon me if I attempt to draw a word picture for you? What would you think if I were to say that your mother was a disagreeable woman, that she was a bad character, and even though she pretended to be gracious and kind to you, she was not what she claimed to be?" His reply was: "Mr. Hamilton, I would kill you." "Very well," I said, "a man will kill another because he insults his mother—but Christian people tolerate and allow Modernism to invade their churches, stand in their



Rev. Harry G. Hamilton

pulpits, dominate their schools, instruct their children, who say that our blessed Lord Jesus was not God's only begotten Son, who came to earth in human flesh to take away our sin, but the illegitimate child of Mary." He said: "I am going back to Boston to oppose with all my heart that awful blasphemy."

The word "Modernism" is a misnomer, it is used in religious circles to deceive. Modernism is centuries old, but like every other form of deception, it changes its name when completely routed, but its nature is still the same. The new name by which this very subtle foe of Christianity is now masquerading is "Humanism." Modernism is rationalism, rationalism is a system of religious thought which bases its opinion on human reason instead of Divine revelation.

Even "Humanism" itself is centuries old, but at the present is experiencing somewhat of a revival and revision, and has a close similarity to railroad guides in that it is "subject to change without notice."

Humanism is a liberal form of Unitarianism which definitely rejects the teaching of Christianity. The leaders in his modern movement are Charles Francis Potter,

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FACING THE PIERCED JESUS

By Evangelist JOHN R. RICE

When the Lord Jesus died on the cross, the soldiers thrust a spear into His side, and there came out blood and water. And thereby hangs a tale, with tender and profound and beautiful lessons from the word of God. In John 19:30-37 the story is told as follows:

"When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

"The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the sabbath day, (for that sabbath day was an high day,) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away.

"Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with him.

"But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs:

"But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.

"And he that saw it bare record, and his record is true: and he knoweth that he saith true, that ye might believe.

"For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, A bone of him shall not be broken.

"And again another scripture saith, They shall look on him whom they pierced."

Men are guilty of the death of Christ. In their wicked hearts they hated Him and planned to kill Him. In their hearts they did kill Him. Peter said in Acts 2:23, "Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain." Again in Acts 3:15 Peter said that they had "killed the Prince of life," but it is significant that in Acts 5:30 Peter again said that God raised up Jesus, "whom ye slew and hanged on a tree." Actually they killed him before they crucified Him. They were guilty of his death long before Jesus died.

And yet, in a sense, nobody killed Jesus. He himself "gave up

the ghost." Jesus could not die without His own consent. Many a time they had tried to kill Him and could not. Jesus Himself said, "I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself." (John 10:17, 18). So when the time came, Jesus said, "It is finished!" and gave up the ghost.

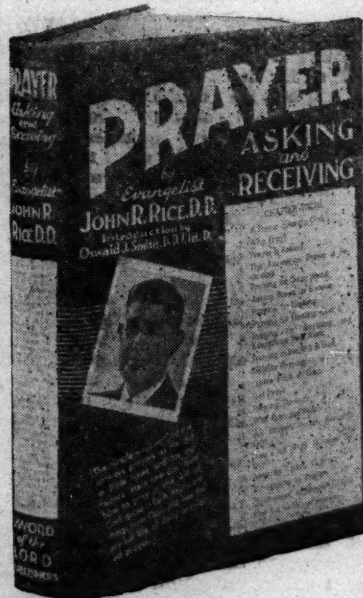
It was finished! Jesus had suffered the torment of a damned soul who cannot see the face of God. Fulfilling the prophecy of Psalm 22:1, Jesus had cried, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" and yet He knew why God had forsaken Him. God had forsaken Him because all the sins of the world were piled upon Him

and He was tasting death for every man. And now at last the Father's face was averted no more! Divine justice had been satisfied completely, and now God the Father could turn and smile at His own Son again! Suffering like a lost sinner ought to suffer in Hell, Jesus had addressed God as "My God, my God." But now that the price is paid, now that the veil of the temple was rent in the midst, opening fully the way from man to God, Jesus had spoken to God again, but this time he called Him "Father." "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, He gave up the ghost." (Luke 23:45, 46.) Divine wrath has smitten its target, and divine justice has been satisfied and Christ can again call God "Father." It is finished!

And in some sense, the wrath of man is finished. Even the Pharisees and scribes who hated Jesus with pitiless hatred have had enough. For six hours they have seen Him suffer. They saw Him beaten with a Roman scourge, saw Him nailed to a Roman cross after the common rabble had spit in His face and plucked out His beard, had blindfolded Him and slapped Him until His face was so marred that He did not look like a man (Isa. 52:14). They had seen the mocking crown of thorns on His head. They had seen the agony of the long hours of torture. At last when Jesus said, "I thirst," someone had smeared bitter gall and vinegar upon the parched lips and bruised face. They knew no other way to make Him suffer. Even man's horrible hatred for Christ had done all it knew to do. It was finished!

So Jesus, with a loud cry, dropped His head upon His breast and

(Continued on page two)



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It has thinner paper than the first printing, a little thinner, perhaps, than even the second printing, because of wartime requirements. But it still has the 328 pages, twenty-one chapters of blessing. And it is even more beautiful than the first printing, with new jacket, and it is neatly and strongly bound in real cloth. The price is still \$1.50, as it was the second printing. It will go rapidly. Better get your order in. We thank God for His great blessing on this book. This printing makes a total of about 40,000 copies printed, so popular it is.

Order today from The Sword of the Lord Publishers, 145 N. Hale St., Wheaton, Ill. Price \$1.50.

Buffalo City-Wide Campaign Glorious

By Evangelist John R. Rice

In Buffalo, N. Y. we are in one of the greatest evangelistic campaigns I ever saw. In a great Children's mass meeting, with 2,640 present by count, 310 came to Christ, earnestly, honestly. All were most carefully dealt with, personally. This is written Wednesday of the second week, and we have cards with names and addresses of 554 people who have claimed Christ openly, and who have been personally dealt with afterward with scripture and prayer, usually by pastors. Scores of them are men and women. Many came with tears. Great conviction is spreading. We expect many hundreds of others saved. Crowds have been up to 2820 by count, and growing. Fuller report next week, God willing.

FACING THE PIERCED JESUS

(Continued from page one)

gave up His Spirit. The stupendous tragedy now is done, except for a last detail. "Without shedding of blood is no remission," so the blood of the God man, the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world, must be shed, poured out for man's sin. So a soldier, not knowing what he did, nor why, took the spear, and thrust it into the side, into the very heart of Jesus, and there poured out a saving flood of blood and water. Now with reverent hearts and with unshod feet, let us consider two great themes in this Scripture: first, the piercing of Jesus, why it was and what it meant; and second, who will face the pierced Saviour. Remember that the text said, "And they shall look on him whom they pierced."

I. THE PIERCING OF JESUS

These short verses have much to tell us. How weighty they are with meaning!

1. Consider first that Christ must be taken down from the cross for the "high sabbath" which began at sundown

These scribes and elders and Pharisees who demanded the crucifixion of Jesus and watched Him die, were scrupulously religious folk! They did not mind crucifying the Son of God, the Saviour of the world, but they must strictly observe their ceremonial laws! And oh, the world is full of people today who will not eat meat on Friday or in Lent yet who trample under their feet the blood of Christ, never accepting Him as a personal Saviour! How many people have been christened and confirmed, and go to church on Easter, and yet have never repented of their sins nor been born again! How many people attend mass or confession but are as certainly unconverted, as certainly rejectors of Jesus Christ, as these same wicked, religious Pharisees who crucified Him!

"We have had our fun," they seemed to say, "Now break the legs of the two thieves and the legs of Jesus. It will be as painful a way as possible to finish them. We must have them off the crosses by sundown, for at sundown begins our annual high sabbath. We cannot have that great day defiled by the public display of these hated men with bloody and fly-blown backs, with inflamed wounds and tortured faces. Break their legs and get them down!"

The day when Jesus was crucified, we are told, "was the preparation," that is, the day of preparation for the passover feast. It was the fourteenth day of Nisan, the first month of the Jewish calendar, when every family in the nation (or two small families together) were to kill the passover lamb and prepare it for eating in the evening. Read the story in Exodus chapters 12 to 18. When Jesus died the Jewish nation had been observing this annual passover feast for fifteen hundred years. Every year on the four-day of the week, each family would kill its passover lamb in mid-afternoon. The lamb would be roasted whole with fire, and eaten that night with bitter herbs in

memory of the passover night when the children of Israel came out of Egypt, and looking forward to the coming Saviour, God's passover Lamb, who would deliver all who would trust Him from the bondage of sin and Satan. The Jewish day began at sundown. At sundown would begin the fifteenth day of Nisan. The passover lamb would be eaten and that evening would begin the seven days' feast of unleavened bread.

That approaching fifteenth day of Nisan was a high Sabbath; that is, not a weekly Sabbath, Saturday, but an annual Sabbath. For in Exodus 12:14 we are told, "And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the Lord throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance forever." Seven days they were to eat unleavened bread. "And in the first day there shall be an holy convocation, and in the seventh day there shall be an holy convocation to you; no manner of work may be done in them, save that which every man must eat, that only may be done of you" (Exo. 12:16). It was a Sabbath day, that is, a day of rest; an annual Sabbath, the Sabbath when the passover lamb would be eaten and when the feast of unleavened bread should begin. So that hence the Jewish leaders demanded that Christ and the two thieves should be taken down from the cross.

It becomes clear, then, that Christ Himself did not eat the passover lamb. Jesus ate a certain passover meal with them, as you see from Luke 22:8, 15. But it was simply a preliminary meal of the day of preparation, which began at sundown the day before Jesus was crucified. In that meal they ate bread and drank wine or grape-juice, and did not eat the passover lamb.

The reason that Jesus did not eat the passover lamb was that He Himself was the Passover Lamb, and He had to die at the very time appointed for the slaying of the passover lambs throughout the nation. For fifteen hundred years all the Jews had been following the clear instructions of the Lord that the passover lambs should be slain on the fourteenth day of Nisan. How strange it would be if God had sent this prophecy for so many centuries, and then had His Son, His Passover Lamb, to die on the wrong day! God forbid! No, that mid-afternoon when Jesus died, it was the very time for the slaying of passover lambs, the time foretold in prophecy, the time observed for fifteen centuries.

That leads me to say further that the fourteenth day of Nisan, when Jesus died, must have been Wednesday afternoon. Our Catholic friends thought that Jesus was crucified on Friday, because it is said that the next day was a Sabbath day. But I believe they were mistaken. The Sabbath here mentioned in John 19:31 was not the weekly Sabbath on Saturday, but the annual Sabbath which this year, I think, came on Thursday.

Jesus Himself had plainly foretold that "as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth" (Matthew 12:40). I am familiar with all the arguments, but I do not see how, if Jesus were crucified on Friday and was in the grave only two nights and one day, this Scripture could be fulfilled. As Dr. R. A. Torrey has so well explained, Jesus could be in the grave some more than seventy-two hours and fulfill the prophecy that He was "three days and three nights in the heart of the earth" but it seems impossible that He could fulfill the Scripture in less than seventy-two hours. Hence I believe that Christ died Wednesday afternoon. Sometime Wednesday night, allowing for the cleansing of the body, anointing with spices and wrapping in fine linen, and the solemn interment in that Wednesday evening in Joseph's new tomb Jesus was buried. Then Thursday and Friday and Saturday Jesus was in the grave, three days and three nights, and then he arose, fulfilling the Scripture to the letter. The only reason men ever believed He was crucified on Friday is because the following day is said to have been a Sabbath. But since it was the annual Sabbath, which would come on a different day each year, there

is no reason to suppose the crucifixion was not on Wednesday, which fulfilled the Scriptures to the letter.

Besides, if Jesus were crucified on Friday, there is no account in the gospels of His activities on certain days of that week.

The anxious haste of the Pharisees to get Jesus down from the cross led to the piercing of the Saviour, which was foretold in prophecy.

2. Let us consider next why His bones were not broken as the Jewish leaders intended.

"The Jews, therefore . . . besought Pilate that their legs might be broken," we are told. So I suppose the soldiers took the Roman battle-axe and chopped at the propped-up knees and thighs of the two tormented thieves until they were broken, and those thieves, perhaps with curses on the one hand, and moans on the other hand, died of the shock and agony and the loss of blood.

Then the soldier turns to the Saviour on the middle cross to do the same task. Will they desecrate further that holy body? Perhaps Mary sobs afresh; the lips of John the Beloved move in stony misery. Even the gaping crowd, strangely moved, watches to see them break the bones of the Lamb of God.

But, dear reader, I think all the angels in Heaven looked on with trembling horror as they started to break His legs. I think that demons in the air or fallen angels in Hell may have grinned in anticipation. The weight of all the souls in the universe, for a moment, depend upon that gleaming axe—for if they break the bones of Jesus, then He cannot save anybody. If they break His bones, then there will be no gospel to preach. The Scripture has not been fulfilled, God's plan has failed, and there is no Saviour for sinners! For long ago it had been prophesied of the Saviour that "a bone of Him shall not be broken." If Christ's legs are broken, He is not the promised Messiah, His death is not according to the Scriptures and He could not save anyone.

The twelfth chapter of Exodus and the ninth of Numbers give many detailed commands about the passover lamb which pictured Christ. It must be a male lamb, since Christ is man, not woman. It must be a lamb of the first year, in its prime, since Christ died about the age of thirty-three. It must be without spot or blemish to picture the sinless Saviour. It must be roasted with fire and no water, because Christ had no water when He was thirsting on the cross, and the rich man in Hell could not get even a drop of water to cool his tongue, and there is no alleviation of the torments of the damned which Christ tasted for all. The roasted lamb was to be eaten with bitter herbs picturing Christ's sufferings. And then Numbers 9:12 plainly commands, "They shall leave none of it until morning, nor break any bone of it." And now for fifteen centuries the Israelites had roasted their lambs whole, head and legs and all, and not a bone could be broken and maintain the type. And now if Jesus has His bones broken, He is not the promised Passover Lamb, and all of God's plans for saving the world through Him would fall through. Oh, how eagerly all the hosts from Heaven must have looked down when the soldiers started to break the legs of the Lord Jesus!

What is the gospel by which we are saved? It is not simply that Christ died for us. That is good news, but that is not all of it. It is not simply that He died and rose again. No, the gospel that Paul preached, we are told in the inspired language of I Corinthians 15:3, 4, "That Christ died for our sins, according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day, according to the scriptures." Oh, when Jesus died, it must be according to the Scriptures! If Jesus died any other way, then He could not be the Saviour of poor lost sinners.

So John 19:36 tells us, "For these things were done, that the Scriptures should be fulfilled, a bone of him shall not be broken."

When Jesus first preached at Galilee, after having been filled with the Spirit, the people "were filled with wrath, and rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down head-

LETTERS FROM OTHER EVERETT PASTORS

Last week we gave "Echoes from Everett." Here are some more.

We feel it will promote revival effort and show how easily honest and devout Christians of all denominations can work together in revivals, and how God cared for all differences and brought all out happy with a multitude saved, to print these testimonies. Oh that pastors everywhere would plan and pray and work to bring about great city-wide revival campaigns all over America! Here is Dr. Neals letter.

long." If they had succeeded, if Christ had died there, He would not have been our Saviour. The only way the death of Christ could do a sinner any good was that He should die "according to the scriptures."

Humanly speaking, it is surprising that the wicked Pharisees and Sadducees did not stone Jesus to death as they did stone the martyr Stephen a little later. In fact, they wanted to stone Jesus. Nothing would have pleased them better than to accuse Him of blasphemy and crush and batter His body into the dust with cruel stones. We are told that "the Jews sought the more to kill him" (John 5:18) and again, "the Jews sought to kill him," (John 7:1). In fact, we are actually told that they tried to stone Him: "Then took they up stones to cast at him" (John 8:59). And if one stone had fractured His skull or a rib or broken any bones, that would have proved forever that Jesus was not the Son of God, and blocked His plan of saving sinners. For Christ could not have a bone broken. And his death must be according to the Scriptures.

Just last night it was—that sad, bitter, desolate night, that Jesus went out of the upper room, gave the disciples the teachings of the fourteenth, fifteenth, and sixteenth chapters of John, prayed the prayer of John 17, and then went into the Garden of Gethsemane. Just last night it was, that, being in an agony, He prayed the more earnestly. And as the Saviour mopped the sweat that poured profusely from His face as He agonized in prayer that night, He found His handkerchief bloody red! Jesus was literally dying from sorrow. He begged the disciples to pray with Him and for Him, saying "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even unto death" (Matt. 26:38). Actually the Saviour was dying. If God did not strengthen Him, if He did not get help from Heaven that night, Jesus would die, and all the plans for the redemption of sinners would be thwarted. For a Saviour dying in the Garden of Gethsemane could not save anybody. He must die "according to the Scriptures." He must be hanged on a cross, for "cursed is everyone that hangs on a tree," and otherwise He could not bear the curse of man's sin. He must have the stripes on His back, for "with his stripes we are healed" (Isa. 53:5). The soldiers must cast lots for His garments. The wicked must surround Him like bulls of Bashan, and must gnash on Him with their teeth. Jesus must have His hands and feet pierced with the nails, according to the twenty-second Psalm. And He must die at the time of the slaying of the passover lambs. Oh, when you consider the intricate details of prophecy that Jesus fulfilled in His death, it becomes overwhelmingly certain that He is God's own promised Saviour, the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world! Only the calloused and ignorant, only the wilfully perverted who do not want to know the truth, doubt that Jesus is the Son of God who died for our sins. Because He died "according to the scriptures."

So in the Garden of Gethsemane, when Jesus was about to die prematurely, when sin had broken His heart, when the capillaries were bursting open, when His soul was sorrowful even unto death, Jesus prayed, prayed that He might live until the morrow, prayed that He might die according to the Scriptures and so fulfill the plan of God. For what did Jesus pray? Some have thought that Jesus prayed to be spared the crucifixion. Some have thought that after agreeing

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
2925 Lombard Avenue
Claude L. Neal, D. D., Minister
Residence 1932 Rucker
Everett, Washington

"April 1, 1944"

"Dr. John R. Rice, 'Monte Cristo Hotel, 'Everett, Washington. 'My Dear Dr. Rice; 'Permit me to give a brief testimony concerning the few days of fellowship we have had together in our 'Everett for Christ' campaign. 'I shall always look back to the three weeks of fellowship we had together with twenty churches and their pastors as one of the high experiences of my ministry. The happy fellowship, the inspiration from the great choir, the solos from J. Stratton Shufelt, the soul stirring, sin convicting, heart searching gospel messages of Dr. John R. Rice certainly gripped my heart. 'My soul has been blessed. My heart is encouraged. I sincerely believe that God is using you and Brother Shufelt to bring again a revival of the old fashioned city-wide 'Revival' to America. 'As you go be assured that you have one more humble sinner saved by grace, who has joined the great host in prayer for your continued success. May God bless you, my brother.

"Sincerely yours in Him,
"Claude L. Neal."

CHRISTIAN PASTOR HAPPY OVER CAMPAIGN

Next we give a letter from Rev. W. Lawrence Wells, which pleased the editor very much.

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH
W. Lawrence Wells, Pastor
2002 Hoyt Avenue
Everett, Washington

"April 4, 1944"

"To my Preaching Brethren, 'Greetings: 'It gives me pleasure to commend to you the work of Dr. John R. Rice, union evangelist of Wheaton, Illinois. He has recently closed a campaign here in Everett, a city of 30,000, on Puget Sound near Seattle. There were in the vicinity of 300 persons who answered the invitation either to accept Christ for the first time or to rededicate their lives to Him. This was during a three weeks' meeting which was held in the civic auditorium.

"You will find that Dr. Rice condemns sin vigorously, that he preaches about the Judgment and Hell and that he calls upon men to forsake the world and come out definitely for Christ. However, he maintains a kindness and graciousness in it all and few people find it possible to become angry with him.

"Dr. Rice is a strong advocate of the local church and urges people to give it their loyal support. He does not appeal for money for his campaign, leaving financial arrangements and offerings in the hands of the local ministers. There was never any pressure exerted for money in our meeting here.

"While he has strong convictions he will not make the doctrines which he holds, as a Southern Baptist, an issue in a revival meeting. He keeps to the main line of calling men to salvation and leaves the teaching of the finer points to the local pastors. If you are looking for a union evangelist, I commend this man of God to you and your city.

"Cordially yours,"
(Signed) W. Lawrence Wells

THE LIGHTED LANTERN

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PROPHECY-WHAT

by OSWALD J. S.

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"GLORY JUBILEE SONGS," 64 pages, by Evangelist Joseph T. Larson, 2026 Ave. C., Scottsbluff, Nebr. 25 yrs. writing and now Publ. Has 58 songs, 36 choruses, 6 "Spirituals." Intro. by Dr. Haldor Lillenas and Dr. Arthur W. McKee. Price, 50¢ copy, 10 for \$3.50 (send for list of 7 other books, copy my paper, "Christian Comfort Companion," 5¢ copy, \$1 year.

THE SWORD OF THE LORD

Entered as second-class matter, Dec. 26, 1941, at the post office at Denton, Texas, under the Act of March 3, 1897.

EVANGELIST JOHN R. RICE
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

Published weekly at 208 South Elm Street, Denton, Texas. Editorial and Executive Office: 145 North Hale Street, Wheaton, Illinois.

Subscription Price: \$1.00 a year, 3 years, \$2.00
Canada and Foreign Countries: \$1.50 a year.

FACING THE PIERCED JESUS

(Continued from page two)

to die for man's sins, planning it with the Father even before the world began, that now Jesus would avoid it! Some have thought that Jesus was here praying against the Scriptures, contrary to the will of God. Some have thought that even now Jesus supposed there might be some other way to save poor sinners. God forbid! No, no; Jesus was praying in the will of God, and not contrary to it. And He got what He prayed for. To understand this prayer of Jesus, twice-repeated, see the explanation of it in Hebrews 5:7, "Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared." Jesus prayed in Gethsemane to the Father "that was able to save Him from death" that night, save Him from the unScriptural death in the Garden of Gethsemane, and spare Him for the Scriptural death on the cross tomorrow. That is what Jesus asked for, and that is what He got!

Jesus did not ask that the bitter cup of death would be avoided and taken entirely away. Rather He prayed that it should pass from Him for the time being, that He might not die that night, "and was heard in that he feared." God the Father granted that prayer. Jesus prayed in the Father's will and not contrary to it. In fact, in the prayer itself, Jesus had plainly said He was not asking for His own will, but according to the Father's will. He said, "Nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt (Matt. 26:39). That was not a prayer of sad resignation to a duty He did not want to perform. No, no! Rather it was a fervent prayer that the Father would send help and help Him live until tomorrow to die according to the Father's own plan.

Oh, thank God the Saviour's prayer was heard! Jesus had said, "I know that thou hearest me always" (John 11:42). So an angel was sent and strengthened Him and Jesus lived to die on the cross "according to the scriptures."

Certainly Satan would have rejoiced to see them break the bones of Jesus before they took Him down from the cross! Satan had done everything he could do to keep Christ from dying "according to the Scriptures." If Christ should have died in Gethsemane, the night before it was planned that He should die on the cross, or if Christ had been hit with a stone, as He was often threatened, so as to fracture a bone; or if He had had His legs broken in the last hour on the cross, He would not be dying according to the Scriptures. Numbers 9:12 had plainly commanded that of the passover lamb, that they should leave none of it until morning, nor break any bone of it." For fifteen hundred years that command, picturing the coming Saviour in the passover lamb, had been observed by Israel. Psalm 34:20 says, referring, I think, to Christ, "He keepeth all his bones; not one of them is broken." But Satan was thwarted again, and our beloved Saviour died "according to the Scriptures" without a bone broken. And that is why they thrust the spear in His side to make doubly sure He was dead.

3. Jesus must be pierced with a spear because it was foretold in prophecy.

Our text in John 19:37 says, "And again another scripture saith, They shall look on him whom they pierced." How meticulously careful God was to fulfill all His promises in Christ! Many, many times in the life story of Jesus as told in the gospels we find words like these: "That the scripture might be fulfilled which saith—" So not only was it imperative that the bones of the Saviour must not be broken if He

were the Son of God, but it was equally imperative that the spear should pierce His side. The Scripture had said it, and therefore God would fulfill it!

The Scripture referred to is in Zechariah 12:10. We are clearly told that at Christ's second coming He will appear at Jerusalem to be seen and recognized by the Jews; "And they shall look upon me whom they have pierced." Any careful student must be profoundly impressed with the thoroughness God used in proving His case, that Jesus was the promised Messiah. Born of a virgin, of the house of David, of the tribe of Judah, in Bethlehem; dying on the appointed day, hands and feet pierced with nails after having been betrayed by a friend; fulfilling the picture of Psalm 22 perfectly, with soldiers casting lots for His garments, with the elders mocking Him, He fulfilled every detail of prophecy. And then, when He gave up the ghost, a soldier, surely not knowing what he did, took the spear and pierced His side! Thus the Scripture was fulfilled. Thus, then, "they shall look upon them whom they pierced."

4. "And forthwith came there out blood and water" when the spear pierced the Saviour's side.

We miss much blessing when we pass over thoughtlessly any statement of the Word of God. I confess that for years I preached on the blood and never preached on the water that came from the Saviour's side. Then I became convicted and prayed for God to open my heart to the truth He meant to reveal by this double flow from Calvary.

Oh, may we never forget to preach the blood! This is a fulfillment of all the prophecies! Here comes to an end that stream of blood that has trickled down through the centuries, when millions of animals gave their innocent blood to picture the coming Lamb of God! Oh, it is true that "without shedding of blood is no remission" (Heb. 9:22). So the blood of Jesus Christ must be poured out. Mary Baker Eddy, who founded that heathen anti-Christian religion falsely called "Christian Science" said that the blood of Christ was no more effective when poured out on Calvary than when it was in the veins of the living Jesus. But that is a lie, a terrible untruth. For the life was in the blood, and long centuries it had been foretold by the pictured prophecy of the sacrifices, that the blood must be poured out. Not blood in the veins, but blood that is shed, could pay for man's sin. Oh, picture it! The spear was placed against the naked body of Jesus, the soldier lunged, and the head of the spear was plunged up into the very heart, that broken heart, of the Son of God. And the blood poured out, that blood without ever a taint of sin. It poured out like the gurgling blood of a slaughtered animal. If there was a loin cloth, it was soaked in red. The white thigh of the Saviour was covered with the crimson flow. It flowed down His leg and foot; it poured and splattered and dripped on the ground. And the cursed nature that cried out for vengeance over the innocent blood of Abel, must have cried out to God that all man's sins are paid for!

"What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus! What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus!"

"Oh, precious is the flow That makes me white as snow! No other fount I know; Nothing but the blood of Jesus."

Or, as another poet has put it, "There is a fountain, filled with blood Drawn from Immanuel's veins; And sinners plunged beneath that flood Lose all their guilty stains."

The blood of Christ is an offense to some. Some say they will have none of this "slaughter-house religion." But, oh, may it always be the praises of those who love the Lord Jesus! It was by the blood that I was saved. That is the ransom for my soul! Such is the gospel I preach, a gospel of salvation by the blood. And that gospel I

What Is Religious Modernism?

(Continued from page one)

formerly a Baptist preacher who became a Unitarian and in 1929 formed the First Humanist Society of New York; Curtis W. Reese, another Baptist preacher, who is at present Secretary of the Western Unitarian Conference, and John H. Dietrich, once a pastor in the Reformed Church, but now a Unitarian pastor in Minneapolis. Dr. Dietrich is recognized as one of the pioneers in the movement and is the author of "Humanism, a New Faith for a New Age." Dr. Dietrich says: "Humanism does not recognize the existence of the supernatural and does not believe that there is any personal being outside the universe who controls and governs it."

"The Christian Century," a leading exponent of modernism says: (Jan. 3, 1942): "Christianity according to Fundamentalism is one religion, and Christianity according to Modernism is another religion. The God of the Fundamentalists is one God, the God of the Modernist is another," and so we ought to decide for ourselves which is the true Christian religion.

The Holy Spirit of God, through Jude, forewarns us that "Certain men have crept in unawares, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ."

will preach, God helping me, until I die; and then in Heaven I will praise Him forever who died for me! Oh, let us never forget the blood of Calvary.

But when Jesus died, "forthwith came there out blood and water." What is the meaning of the water?

Here is the meaning, I believe. In John 7:37-39 is this pointed Scripture:

"In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink."

"He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water."

"(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given, because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)"

Are you thirsty? Then you are invited to come to Jesus and drink. "He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water." And then we are told that "This spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive." The promise is for the indwelling of the Spirit. Yes, and more. For every Christian may have not only the indwelling of the Spirit, which is the heritage of every born-again one, but he may have the Holy Spirit's fullness and power. Out from the heart and life of a Christian may flow a stream of the water of life to dying souls all about us! So if the blood is for salvation, the water that poured out of the side of Jesus is for power, the wonderful power of the Holy Spirit. Salvation was purchased for us at Calvary, but the marvelous power to do His will in the fullness of the Spirit is also bought for us there. This twofold power is also bought for us there.

This twofold meaning of Calvary is pictured by the Saviour again in John 20:19-22. There Jesus came to the disciples the same day He was risen from the dead and said, "Peace be unto you." Then He showed them His hands and His side. That is the peace of salvation, of sins forgiven, bought by the blood poured out on Calvary.

And then the Saviour said to them again, "Peace be unto you; as my Father has sent me, even so send I you." And then we are told, "He breathed on them, and said unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost." There is a joy, a peace of salvation, as illustrated by the wounded hands and side of the Saviour. But, bless God, there is also the peace that a Christian can have in the fullness of joy and the fullness of power wrought in a Christian by the Holy Spirit. Someone may say, "Do you believe in a second blessing?" Well, I do not believe in the kind of second blessing some people believe in, claiming that the sinful, carnal nature is eradicated. But I certainly

(Continued on page four)

We can best understand this heresy by comparing its teaching with the Word of God.

For our comparison of Modernism with the Bible we shall confine ourselves mostly to a book published by University of Chicago, entitled "A Guide to the Study of the Christian Religion," edited by Dr. G. Berney Smith—a Seminary professor.

CONCERNING THE BIBLE

The Word of God
2nd Tim. 3:16

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness that the man of God may be perfect thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

Modernist Guide

"It was discovered that the sacred book of the Hebrews had grown up as the sacred books of all other religious peoples, in other words, the Bible was discovered to be a natural instead of a supernatural book."

Here they deny that God is the Author of Holy Scriptures.

CONCERNING THE DEITY OF CHRIST

The Word of God
John 1:1-2-3

"In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him and without Him was not anything made that was made."

Modernist Guide

"Jesus was only the Martyred prophet." Here they deny that Jesus Christ was God incarnate in flesh.

CONCERNING THE VIRGIN BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST

The Word of God
Isa. 7:14

"Behold a virgin shall conceive and bare a son and shall call his name Immanuel."

Modernist Guide

Harry Fosdick's sermon, May 21, 1922.

"A biological miracle that our modern minds cannot use. The Virgin Birth was invented because of the satisfaction that Greeks derived from this type of appeal."

Making Jesus Christ the illegitimate child of Mary.

CONCERNING THE ATONEMENT OF JESUS CHRIST

The Word of God
Heb. 9:22

"Without the Shedding of blood there is no remission of sins."

Modernist Guide

"To insist dogmatically that without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins is both foolish and futile in an age which has abandoned the idea of bloody sacrifice."

CONCERNING CONVERSION

The Word of God
Math. 18:3

"Except ye be converted—ye cannot enter into the Kingdom of God."

Modernist Guide

"Conversion is really a natural phenomenon of adolescence."

CONCERNING THE LORD'S RETURN

The Word of God
Acts 1:11

"This same Jesus which is taken up from you into Heaven shall so come in like manner."

Fosdick

"I do not believe in the physical return of Jesus."

CONCERNING THE TRINITY

The Word of God
Matt. 28:19

"In the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost."

Fosdick

"An arithmetical absurdity."

CONCERNING MIRACLES

The Word of God
Jno. 20:30

"And many other miracles did Jesus in the presence of His disciples."

S. Case Jackson

"There is a deadly unreality in our thought of miracles."

What shall the true child of God do in the light of all this? The answer is plainly found in both the

DR. WM. R. NEWELL SAYS, "TWO PAGES OF 'PRAYER' WORTH PRICE!"

In a letter dated February 11th, Dr. William R. Newell, noted Bible teacher and evangelist of Deland, Florida, ordered a copy of the book *PRAYER—Asking and Receiving*, by the editor, Dr. John R. Rice, to be sent to his son. Then he added,

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"Yours in the Love of Christ," (Signed) William R. Newell

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FACING THE PIERCED JESUS

(Continued from page three)

do believe that a Christian can have something far beyond conversion, something else much beyond salvation. He can be filled with the Holy Ghost. He can have the power, the joy, the fruitfulness which Bible Christians had, wrought by the Holy Ghost.

Remember that Jesus said, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). I think we might say that the first word *life* in that promise refers to salvation bought by the blood, but the second promise, "and that they might have it more abundantly" is surely pictured by the water poured out.

This double lesson and blessing of Calvary was pictured in the death of the passover lamb and the feast of unleavened bread in the Old Testament. Read it in Exodus, chapter 12. The passover lamb was killed and eaten in one meal. That pictures the salvation wrought by the blood. We take Christ and He is ours, and our sins are all paid for. Only once does one need to be born again. So the children of Israel ate the passover lamb, and if any were left it was burned. Not a piece was to remain until morning. But thank God that was not the end of the blessing! They began that night the feast of unleavened bread, and it continued on for seven full days. Seven is the perfect number. Six is a picture of man's life on earth, and the seventh day includes perfection and Heaven. So Christians may take of Christ just once to the saving of the soul. That is pictured by the blood poured out and by the passover lamb. But the same Christian then begins the happy feeding on Christ, the bread of life, and that he can continue every day throughout this life and have the same joyful privilege throughout eternity!

Isaiah 44:3 says, "I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground. I will pour my Spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring." So, Christian, if you have the blood, why not have the water also? If you are thirsting, drink, and drink, and drink! And oh, may the Holy Spirit be in you a well of water springing up to everlasting life, and flowing out to all those near you with a stream of salvation!

Again, Isaiah says (chapter 12, verse 3) "With joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation." Dip in your bucket, brother, today!

Multitudes of Christians know about the blood of Christ and have been redeemed by that precious blood. But oh, how few of us know the power of the Holy Ghost! You have the blood, dear brother, the blood that poured from the wounded side of Jesus on the cross. Now make sure that you have also the water, symbolizing also the fullness of the Holy Spirit, which is the birthright of every Christian.

II. WHO WILL FACE THE PIERCED JESUS?

We have been studying how and why Jesus was pierced with a spear in His side, and the precious meaning pictured for us in that event. But the text says, "They shall look on him whom they pierced." Just as certainly as Jesus was pierced with a spear, that certainly people shall face the pierced Jesus. Let us consider, then, who must stand and face the crucified Saviour, and how and when.

1. The Jews must face Jesus, their rejected Messiah.

The last chapters of Zechariah tell of the return of Christ in glory to fight the Battle of Armageddon, deliver Jerusalem and the Jews from their enemies, and set up his kingdom on earth. Zechariah 12:10 says,

"And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn."

Here is a picture of the beginning of the greatest revival the world will ever see! The remnant of Jews left alive on the earth will see their Messiah. Many Jews even

today look for His coming, not believing that He came the first time. But when He comes in power and destroys the Antichrist and his armies, defends Jerusalem and regathers the Jews, God will "pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplication." Then they will see Jesus, really see Him, and recognize Him for the Messiah that He is! Today there is a blindness on the hearts of Israel, but when Jesus comes that blindness will be removed. Romans 11:25-27 has this sweet promise about the conversion of Israel:

"For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Zion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins."

All of Israel left alive on the earth will be converted. Zechariah 13:1 says, "In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness." That speaks not of what happened at Calvary so much as what will happen when Jesus comes. Christ has already died, and salvation is free to Jews and Gentiles alike; but oh, when the Jews see the pierced Jesus with their own eyes,—what a mourning, what a repenting, what a grieving over their sins and what a great turning to Christ, their Messiah and Saviour!

Zechariah 13:6 describes the conscience-stricken inquiry of a Jew at that time. "And one shall say unto him, What are these wounds in thine hands? Then he shall answer, Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends."

I wish I could have heard Moody preach. I have wished I could have been in some of the marvelous revivals he led. Oh, if I could have been at Mount Carmel when the nation Israel turned back to God! Or by the River Jordan when John the Baptist preached and they went out from all Jerusalem and Judaea and were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. Or if I could have seen the power of the Holy Ghost shake wicked Jerusalem, so that three thousand were saved in a day at Pentecost. But I will see a greater revival. Some people foolishly say that the day of great revivals is past. No, no! Instead of that, the greatest revival the world is ever to see has not yet come. That will be when the nation Israel, all in one day, will turn to the Lord Jesus, when they will look on Him whom they pierced! Glad day for Israel when they see the crucified Saviour as He is, and love Him and trust Him!

2. All Christ-rejecting lost sinners will face the crucified Saviour, will bow the knee to Him, in condemnation and despair.

The promise in Zechariah 10 that "they shall look on Him whom they pierced," and quoted in John 19:37 referred primarily to the Jews. But many, many scriptures make clear that all the unconverted dead must face the pierced Jesus, and oh, with what grief and shame and terror they will meet Him! That is what Revelation 1:7 says: "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen." Note that this is at His second coming, when He returns bodily to reign on the earth. And note that this time will be one of terror and "all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him."

Do you mean that unconverted people who are already in Hell will face Jesus Christ? Yes, that is exactly what the Scripture teaches.

First, the very people who crucified Jesus; the members of the Sanhedrin, the high priests, the Roman soldiers, Pilate and Herod, who combined in that sin will face the Saviour. Those who pierced Jesus will see Him, face Him, give an account to Him!

When the high priest said to Jesus, "I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou

be the Christ, the Son of God" (Mat. 26:63), Jesus answered, "Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven" (Matt. 26:64). That same high priest who presided at the trial of Jesus and demanded His crucifixion, will face the pierced Jesus. He is now in Hell, no doubt. But they in Hell will see Christ's return, and later will be dragged out of Hell to face Him, as He sits on the great white throne, when God's record books are opened, as described in Revelation 20:11-15.

And so will every other Christ-rejecting sinner face the Lord Jesus there. "For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God (Rom. 14:11). And Philippians 2:9-11 tells us:

"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Not a sinner who lives can escape facing the pierced Jesus! You may blaspheme His name now, may reject the pleading of His Holy Spirit now, may refuse to love and serve Him. But the time is coming when every poor sinner in the universe will kneel before Christ and confess that He is the Lord they ought to have trusted and served. "They shall look on him whom they pierced."

3. Christians, through eternity, will see the pierced Jesus.

I have said that the Jews will face Christ when He returns to reign. Seeing Him, they will be convicted and saved. And every unconverted sinner in the world will face Jesus. They will see His return and later will be judged by Him. But Christians, too, will see the Lord Jesus, and through the countless ages of eternity the pierced Jesus will be our delight and our joy.

Jesus will be the only one in Heaven with scars. And his wounds will be the eternal reminder of salvation by God's wonderful grace through faith in the death of His Son.

We have good reason to believe that when Jesus comes and our vile bodies are changed and glorified, we will have no more scars. In Isaiah 35:5 and 6 we are told that in the happy day of the resurrection "the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing." The weakness, the frailties, the scars of our mortal bodies will all be cured, in the glorified bodies. In Romans 8:23 Paul reminds us that "ourselves also, which have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body." Our bodies are to be saved, then, cured from the marks of our sin. I believe that every Christian in Heaven will have a body as perfect as that of Adam in the Garden of Eden, as perfect as Eve's before she sinned. I believe this crooked nose which I got playing college football will be straight, and many another crooked thing about my nature, as well as scars on my body, will be cured, in that good day.

When I was called to the Army, in 1917, the induction papers carried a record of the scar on my right wrist cut by an axe, of the slash on the side of the left elbow cut when a young bull ran into the fence with me. But in Heaven that Army record will be out of date. My scars will be gone! I believe that the dying thief who trusted the Lord Jesus and went that day with Him into Paradise will not have, in the resurrection, even the mark of the nails that held him to the cross.

But with Jesus, it will be different. He will still have the scars. When He rose from the dead, Jesus saw the doubting disciples, and "showed unto them his hands and his side." He encouraged the doubting Thomas to thrust his finger into the prints of the nails in His hands, and to thrust his hand into the wound made by the spear in his side. Jesus still had the scars in His resurrection body.

And he will still have those wounds when He returns to reign, for Zechariah 13:6 records that

HAVE YOU BEGUN?

(Continued from page one)

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Wouldn't it be wonderful to be able to sign your name to a letter

Jews will ask, "What are these wounds in thy hands?" and He will answer, "The wounds where-with I was wounded in the house of my friends."

Suppose that after I have been in Heaven a thousand years, somebody suggests that I do not deserve Heaven, that surely God's mercy has gone too far in taking a sinner like me to glory. If we can imagine that anyone in Heaven could seriously question the right of anyone else to be there, I can imagine that I would have to say frankly that Hell ought to have been my portion and that destruction was my just due. I know that I do not deserve salvation. Only the mercy of God kept me out of Hell. But, I say, if such a question could be raised in Heaven, I know what I would do! I would run to the Lord Jesus and beg Him that I might see again His wounded hands, that I might put my hand into His side and feel the wound made by the spear. And as long as the scars are in the hands and feet and in the side of the Saviour, then that long, be it a million times a million years, my soul will still be safe in Heaven, because I will have the constant proof that my sins are all paid for, and that I am bought with a precious price that satisfied all the demands of God.

You see, in Heaven Jesus will be the only sinner. Of course He never sinned, but He will be the only one who will retain the marks of sin, as I see it. He suffered the punishment of all the sinners in the world and He will always have the eternal reminder of the price He has paid as a blessed assurance for saved sinners.

"When my life's work is ended, and I cross the swelling tide, When the bright and glorious morning I shall see

I shall know my redeemer when I reach the other side

And His smile shall be the first to welcome me.

"I shall know Him, I shall know Him,

And redeemed by His Side I shall stand.

I shall know Him, I shall know Him,

By the prints of the nails in His hand!"

"They shall look on Him whom they pierced!"

DECIDE FOR CHRIST TODAY!

Someone reads this message who is unsaved, no doubt. Will you today trust this Saviour who died for you? Will you repent of your sins and accept Him this very day as your own personal Saviour? If so, please write and tell me so. Copy this statement if you like, and mail it today, if you can honestly do so. Here is a convenient form for you to sign:

Evangelist John R. Rice, Editor

The Sword of the Lord

145 N. Hale, Wheaton, Ill.

Dear Brother Rice:

I have read your sermon, "Facing the Pierced Jesus." I know I must face Jesus Christ who was pierced for me. I want to meet Him in peace, so here and now, with all my heart, I honestly come to Him for forgiveness. I confess my guilt: I believe that He died for me. Therefore, today I trust Him to forgive my sins and save my soul forever. I claim Him now as my Saviour, and shall undertake to serve Him the remainder of my days.

Signed

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A friend wrote recently: "Gospel-hungry people read the *Sword* eagerly." That is true. And there are many, many more people hungry for the gospel than most of us realize. Christians who have known the Lord and have walked with Him for a long time read it just as eagerly. You remember now the old song puts it:

"I love to tell the story,

For those who know it best

Seem hungering and thirsting

To hear it like the rest."

Other verses tell you why you should get the gospel through this paper out to every possible one, too:

"I love to tell the story,

For some have never heard

The message of salvation

From God's own holy Word.

"I love to tell the story,

It did so much for me,

And that is just the reason

I tell it now to thee."

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